

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. A method for transmitting a signal in a radiocommunication system comprising the steps of:

providing a set of codes from which a selected code is used to process said signal prior to transmission;

reserving at least one code in said set, such that said reserved code cannot be selected as said selected code;

processing said signal using said selected code; and
transmitting said signal.

2. A method for estimating interference comprising the steps of:
reserving at least one code in a set of codes for interference measurement;

receiving a composite signal; and
estimating said interference at a receiver using said at least one reserved code.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said at least one reserved code is not used for transmitting signals.

4. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:
broadcasting information identifying said at least one code to said receiver.

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5. A mobile station comprising:
a receiver for receiving a signal over an air interface and
despreading said signal using at least one channelization code;
a processor for providing said at least one channelization code to
said receiver, said at least one channelization code including a reserved code that
is used to estimate interference associated with said received signal.

6. The mobile station of claim 5, wherein said receiver receives
information over said air interface that identifies said reserved code.

7. The mobile station of claim 5, wherein said at least one
channelization code also includes a code associated with a traffic channel assigned
to said mobile station.

8. The mobile station of claim 7, wherein said code associated with
said traffic channel is selected based upon a desired user bit rate for a connection
between said mobile station and a radiocommunication system.

9. A base station comprising:
a transceiver for transmitting signals over an air interface; and
a processor for controlling said transceiver, including providing
information identifying a reserved channelization code, which information is
transmitted by said transceiver.

10. The base station of claim 9, wherein said information is broadcast
~~on a broadcast control channel (BCCH).~~

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11. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
storing said selected code in a terminal's memory.
12. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:
storing said at least one code in a terminal's memory.
13. The mobile station of claim 5, further comprising:
a memory for storing said reserved code.

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